



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/060,999
Filing Date	January 29, 2002
First Named Inventor	Wataru IMAJUKU
Art Unit	2828
Examiner Name	Nguyen, Dung T.
Attorney Docket Number	44471/269580

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
DW	1	US-4,839,614	6-13-1989	Hill et al.	
	2	US- 5,218,422	6-8-1993	Zoechbauer	
	3	US- 4,685,772	8-11-1987	Chang	
	4	US- 4,956,812	9-11-1990	Seya et al.	
	5	US- 5,544,183	8-6-1996	Takeda	
	6	US- 5,956,356	9-21-1999	Bergmann et al.	
	7	US- 5,991,477	11-23-1999	Ishikawa et al.	
	8	US- 6,157,025	12-5-2000	Katagiri et al.	
	9	US- 5,453,833	9-26-1995	Kawashima et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>3</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
DW	10	JP05-347605	12-27-1993	Mitsubishi Electric Corp		X
	11	JP11-133472 (Application No. 09-301690)	5-21-1999	Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corporation		X
	12	JP03-72239	3-27-91	Hartmann & Braun AG		X
	13	JP Utility Model Laid-Open No. 06-56758	8-5-1994	Japan Tobacco Inc.		X
	14	JP05-206580	8-13-1993	Canon Inc.		X
	15	JP01-158788	6-21-1989	Hitachi Zosen Corp.		X
	16	JP63-300585	12-7-1988	NEC Corp.		X
	17	JP04-35079	2-5-1992	NEC Corp.		X
	18	JP04-287985	10-13-1992	Komatsu Ltd.		X

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

11/04/03

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 801.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.